

**150-MC-5009**  
**Conduct a Course of Action Decision Brief**  
**Status: Approved**

---

**Distribution Restriction:** Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.

**Destruction Notice:** None

**Foreign Disclosure: FD1** - This training product has been reviewed by the training developers in coordination with the Fort Leavenworth foreign disclosure officer. This training product can be used to instruct international military students from all approved countries without restrictions.

**Condition:** The staff officer develops the courses of action for the mission in accordance with the commanders planning guidance. All mission command systems are operational. The staff officer can access leadership guidance, general office equipment, information systems, and research material on the topic, as well as a facility or medium in a field or garrison environment where the briefing will take place. The staff officer conducts a rehearsal of the briefing. Some iterations of this task should be performed in MOPP 4.

**Standard:** The staff officer conducts a course of action decision briefing to the commander to obtain the commanders decision. The staff officer briefly describes each course of action that the commander approved for consideration, outlines the decision criteria used in analysis, identifies advantages and disadvantages of each course of action, describes the comparison of each course of action, and shows the commander a decision matrix to enable the commander to make an informed decision. The staff officer receives a decision on a course of action from the commander.

**Special Condition:** None

**Safety Risk:** Low

**MOPP 4:** Sometimes

<b>Task Statements</b>
------------------------

**Cue:** None

## DANGER

Leaders have an inherent responsibility to conduct Risk Management to ensure the safety of all Soldiers and promote mission accomplishment.

## WARNING

Risk Management is the Army's primary decision-making process to identify hazards, reduce risk, and prevent both accidental and tactical loss. All soldiers have the responsibility to learn and understand the risks associated with this task.

## CAUTION

Identifying hazards and controlling risks across the range of military operations, Army functions, operations, and activities is the responsibility of all Soldiers.

**Remarks:** None

**Notes:**

The term staff officer refers to the Deputy Commanding Officer (DCO), Chief of Staff (COS), Executive Officer (XO), or other officer as designated by the commander. For guidance on presenting a Military Briefing see Individual Task 150-718-5008 Present a Military Briefing.

### Performance Steps

1. The Staff officer presents the following preliminary information to the commander during the course of action (COA) decision brief:

- a. An updated intelligence preparation of the battlefield (if there are significant changes).
- b. The most likely and most dangerous threat COAs.
- c. The approved mission statement.
- d. The commander's and higher commanders' intents two levels up.
- e. Decision criteria and weighting (as previously approved by the commander).
- f. COA narratives and sketches for each COA under consideration.

2. The Staff officer briefs advantages and disadvantages of each COA relative to the decision criteria.

3. The staff officer briefs advantages and disadvantages of each COA relative to each other and the decision criteria.

4. The staff officer briefs a decision matrix with all decision criteria and weighting (as previously approved by the commander) pitted against each COA.

5. The staff officer recommends a COA to the Commander.

6. The staff officer receives the approved COA from the commander.

(Asterisks indicates a leader performance step.)

**Evaluation Guidance:** Score the Soldier GO if he/she passes all performance measures. Score the Soldier NO-GO if Soldier fails any performance measure. If the Soldier scores NO-GO, show the Soldier why he/she failed and show the Soldier how to perform the measure correctly.

**Evaluation Preparation:** Brief the Soldier: Explain expectations to the Soldier by reviewing the task standards. Stress to the Soldier the importance of observing all cautions and warnings to avoid injury to personnel and, if applicable, damage to equipment.

PERFORMANCE MEASURES	GO	NO-GO	N/A
1. The Staff officer presented preliminary information to the commander during the course of action (COA) decision brief.			
2. The Staff officer briefed advantages and disadvantages of each COA relative to the decision criteria.			
3. The staff officer briefed advantages and disadvantages of each COA relative to each other and the decision criteria.			
4. The staff officer briefed a decision matrix with all decision criteria and weighting (as previously approved by the commander) pitted against each COA.			
5. The staff officer recommended a COA to the Commander.			
6. The staff officer received the approved COA from the commander.			

**Supporting Reference(s):**

Step Number	Reference ID	Reference Name	Required	Primary
	ADRP 5-0	The Operations Process	Yes	No
	ADRP 6-0 (Change 002, March 28, 2014)	Mission Command <a href="http://armypubs.army.mil/doctrine/DR_pubs/dr_a/pdf/adrp6_0_new.pdf">http://armypubs.army.mil/doctrine/DR_pubs/dr_a/pdf/adrp6_0_new.pdf</a>	Yes	No
	ATP 6-01.1	Techniques for effective Knowledge Management	Yes	No
	FM 6-0 (Change 002, April 22, 2016)	COMMANDER AND STAFF ORGANIZATION AND OPERATIONS	Yes	Yes

#### TADSS :

TADSS ID	Title	Product Type
71-ALOTT	Army Low Overhead Training Toolkit	SIM
71-30	Joint Land Component Constructive Training Capability (JLCCTC) Objective System	DVC
71-20	Common Hardware Platform (CHP)	DVC

**Equipment Items (LIN):** None

#### Materiel Items (NSN) :

Step ID	NSN	LIN	Title	Qty
No materiel items specified				

**Environment:** Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to the current Environmental Considerations manual and the current GTA Environmental-related Risk Assessment card. Environmental protection is not just the law but the right thing to do. It is a continual process and starts with deliberate planning. Always be alert to ways to protect our environment during training and missions. In doing so, you will contribute to the sustainment of our training resources while protecting people and the environment from harmful effects. Refer to FM 3-34.5 Environmental Considerations and GTA 05-08-002 ENVIRONMENTAL-RELATED RISK ASSESSMENT.

**Safety:** In a training environment, leaders must perform a risk assessment in accordance with ATP 5-19, Risk Management. Leaders will complete the current Deliberate Risk Assessment Worksheet in accordance with the TRADOC Safety Officer during the planning and completion of each task and sub-task by assessing mission, enemy, terrain and weather, troops and support available-time available and civil considerations, (METT-TC). Note: During MOPP training, leaders must ensure personnel are monitored for potential heat injury. Local policies and procedures must be followed during times of increased heat category in order to avoid heat related injury. Consider the MOPP work/rest cycles and water replacement guidelines IAW FM 3-11.4, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Nuclear, Biological, and Chemical (NBC) Protection, FM 3-11.5, Multiservice Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures for Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear Decontamination.

#### Prerequisite Individual Tasks :

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
150-MC-5111	Conduct the Military Decisionmaking Process	150 - Combined Arms (Individual)	Approved

**Supporting Individual Tasks :** None

**Supported Individual Tasks :** None

#### Supported Collective Tasks :

Task Number	Title	Proponent	Status
71-8-5143	Provide Combat Assessment (Battalion - Corps)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved

71-8-5110	Plan Operations Using the Military Decision Making Process (Battalion - Corps)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-8-5124	Revise the Plan (Battalion - Corps)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
40-6-5008	Provide Army Space Support	40 - Space and Missile Defense (Collective)	Approved
71-9-5100	Conduct Mission Command for Theater Level Operations for Theater Army	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-6-9000	Conduct Information Operations for Theater IO Group	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-7-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Divisions	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Analysis
71-8-5335	Develop Information Strategies (Division and Above)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-8-5610	Conduct Information Operations for Corps	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-1-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Battalions	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Analysis
71-6-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Brigades	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-9-5711(Step: 2.)	Conduct Theater Security Cooperation for Theater Army	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Analysis
71-7-5610	Conduct Information Operations for Divisions	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-9-8610	Support Security Sector Reform for Theater Army	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-6-4150	Provide Contracting Support for Brigades	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-6-4120	Provide Support to Tenant Units for Regional Support Group	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-1-9000	Conduct Information Operations (IO Battalion)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-6-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Brigades	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Analysis
71-8-4150	Provide Contracting Support for Divisions and Corps	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-8-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Corps	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-1-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Battalions	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-8-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Corps	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Analysis
71-9-5711(Step: 2.)	Conduct Theater Security Cooperation (Theater Army [Strategic])	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-7-5100	Conduct the Mission Command Operations Process for Divisions	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-8-4150	Provide Contracting Support for Divisions and Corps	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Proposed
71-8-5001	Conduct Army Design Methodology for Battalions, Brigades, Divisions, Corps, and echelons above Corps	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Proposed
71-6-9001	Conduct Information Operations for Theater IO Group	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Superseded
71-8-4234	Provide Administrative and Civil Law Support (Brigade - Corps)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
71-8-5127	Conduct Military Deception (Brigade - Corps)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
45-8-0001	Conduct Public Affairs Operations for Corps	45 - Public Affairs (Collective)	Proposed
71-8-4226	Develop Resource Requirements (Brigade - Corps)	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved

71-9-4150	Provide Contracting Support for Theater Armies	71 - Combined Arms (Collective)	Approved
-----------	--	---------------------------------	----------

**ICTL Data :**

<b>ICTL Title</b>	<b>Personnel Type</b>	<b>MOS Data</b>
Mission Command Warfighting Function	Any	